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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,390	01/11/2002	Kinya Ono	Q68033	5493

7590 05/02/2006

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EXAMINER

MATTIS, JASON E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/042,390

Applicant(s)

ONO ET AL.

Examiner

Jason E. Mattis

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION:

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-13 and 15-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,9 and 14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 January 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because of the following minor informality:

It appears that there is a mislabeled element in Figure 7. The bubble labeled "s" in Figure 7 should be labeled "f" to be consistent with Figure 10 and with the description of Figure 7 on page 24 lines 4-10 of the specification.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Applicant is advised that should claim 6 be found allowable, claim 7 will be objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate thereof. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3-4, 8, 10, 13, 15-16, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gibbs et al. (U.S. Pat. 6169725 B1).

With respect to claims 1, 8, and 13, Gibbs et al. discloses a data transmission/reception system, method, and apparatus (See column 6 lines 1-14 and

Figure 1 of Gibbs et al. for reference to a data transmission system including apparatuses implementing a method). Gibbs et al. also discloses a plurality of information transmitters/receivers connected to nodes on a bus, for transmitting/receiving data through a connection established between the nodes **(See column 6 lines 1-14 and Figure 1 of Gibbs et al. for reference to a plurality of devices 12-24 and 301, which include transmitters/receivers and are connected to nodes on a bus 30).** Gibbs et al. further discloses a connection restoration control device for restoring each connection at each node by the passage of a predetermined time when each established connection is reset based on a bus resetting **(See column 9 line 48 to column 10 line 18, column 12 lines 36-65, and Figure 5 of Gibbs et al. for reference to a software architecture 500 runs on a restoration control device that restores connections within the first one second after a network reset, which is a bus reset, as defined by IEEE 1394).** Gibbs et al. also discloses controlling an execution order of a plurality of connection restorations corresponding to the types of connections, and dividing the connection restoration into a plurality of processes that are selectively executed based on a status of the connection restoration **(See column 11 line 43 to column 12 line 12, column 12 line 66 to column 14 line 14, and Figure 8 of Gibbs et al. for reference to controlling an execution order of connections restorations following a network reset with different processes being performed based on DCM labels of each connections, which are labels indicating the status of each of the connections).**

With respect to claims 3 and 15, Gibbs et al. discloses a connection information recording device at each node on the bus holding connection information including the process to be selected and the status of connection restoration (**See column 12 line 36 to column 14 line 14 of Gibbs et al. for reference to storing connection information including a process to be performed and a connection status in a DCM list, which is a recording device at each node**).

With respect to claims 4, 10, and 16, Gibbs et al. discloses processes including allocating channels and bandwidth necessary (**See column 12 lines 36-65 of Gibbs et al. for reference to allocating streams, which are channels, and allocating available bandwidth during the connection restoration process**).

With respect to claim 19, Gibbs et al. discloses the connection information including each ID intrinsic to each apparatus and controlling an execution order of a processing of obtaining each ID (**See column 11 lines 43-67 of Gibbs et al. for reference to gathering a list of all GUIDs, which are IDs intrinsic to each apparatus**).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 5, 11, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibbs et al. in view of Zou (U.S. Pat. 6160796 A):

With respect to claims 5, 11, and 17, Gibbs et al. discloses that the bus is a serial bus compliant with the IEEE 1394 Standard (**See column 6 lines 1-14 and Figure 1 of Gibbs et al. for reference to the bus being a serial bus compliant with IEEE 1394**). Gibbs et al. does not disclose that the connections that are restored include a Broadcast-out connection, a Broadcast-in connection, and a Point-to-point connection.

With respect to claims 5, 11, and 17, Zou, in the field of communications, discloses connections including a broadcast-out connection, a broadcast-in connection, and a point-to-point connection (**See column 17 line 58 to column 18 line 8 of Zou for reference to procedures for adding or removing connections including a broadcast-out connection, a broadcast-in connection, and a point-to-point connection**). Restoring a broadcast-out connection, a broadcast-in connection, and a point-to-point connection has the advantage of allowing these common IEEE 1394 type connections to be restored after a bus reset.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, when presented with the work of Zou, to combine restoring a broadcast-out connection, a broadcast-in connection, and a point-to-point connection, as suggested by Zou, with the system, method, and apparatus of Gibbs et al., with the motivation being to allow these common IEEE 1394 type connections to be restored after a bus reset.

7. Claims 6-7, 12, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibbs et al. in view of Zou as applied to claims 5, 11, and 17 above, and in further view of Kim et al. (U.S. Pat. 6885631 B1).

With respect to claims 6-7, 12, and 18, the combination of Gibbs et al. and Zou does not disclose updating oPCR and iPCR of plugs.

With respect to claims 6-7, 12, and 18, Kim et al., in the field of communications, discloses updating oPCR and iPCR of plugs (**See column 1 lines 46-57 and Figure 1 of Kim et al. for reference to updating oPCR and iPCR of plugs**). Updating oPCR and iPCR of plugs has the advantage of allowing connections to be set up between devices on the bus.

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, when presented with the work of Kim et al., to combine updating oPCR and iPCR of plugs, as suggested by Kim et al., with the system, method, and apparatus of Gibbs et al. and Zou, with the motivation being to allow connections to be set up between devices on the bus.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 2, 9, and 14 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claims 2, 9, and 14 would be allowable since the prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious the claimed registration device in which the execution order is registered with the control device controlling the execution order and updating the execution order in the registration device in accordance with the status of the connection recover.

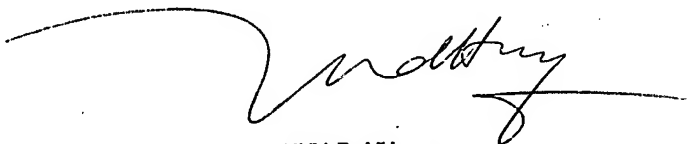
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason E. Mattis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3154. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

jem

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Huy D. Vu', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

HUY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600